

Claim Amendments

Claim 34 (currently amended): A caster for an item including a retractable portion, said caster comprising:

a caster frame attached to said retractable portion;

a wheel rotatably mounted to said caster frame; and

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said wheel and said caster frame being (i) freely rotatable about an axis of rotation generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of said wheel mounted in said caster frame when said wheel bears against a surface in a first position and (ii) longitudinally movable to orient ~~oriented~~ in a predetermined position different from the first position when said wheel is not bearing against said surface.

Claim 35 (original): The caster of Claim 34, wherein

said retractable portion including guiding means, a portion of said caster frame being guided by said guiding means when said wheel is lifted from said surface so as to position said caster frame in said predetermined position.

Claim 36 (original): The caster of Claim 35, wherein

said caster frame includes a rod extending from said wheel through said guiding means, said rod including a pin; and

said guiding means being constructed and arranged for guiding said pin to orient said wheel and said wheel frame in said predetermined position.

B/ Claim 37 (original): The caster of Claim 35, wherein

said guiding means has a V-shape cross-section for guiding said pin.

Claim 38 (original): The caster of Claim 37, wherein

said retractable portion includes a biasing means to bias said wheel and said caster frame into said predetermined position when said wheel is not bearing against said surface.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The caster of Claim 34, wherein

said caster frame includes (I) a swivel and (ii) a wheel frame connecting said swivel with said wheel, said wheel frame being pivotably mounted to said swivel ~~so that when said retractable portion is stored, said wheel and said caster frame can be positioned so as to occupy less space than a wheel and caster frame without said pivotably mounted plate.~~

Claim 40 (currently amended): A caster for an item, said caster comprising:

b) a caster frame rotatably attached to said item;

a wheel axially rotatably mounted to said caster frame, said wheel having an axis of rotation generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of said caster frame; and

said caster frame being (i) freely rotatable about its axis of rotation when said wheel bears against a surface in a first position and (ii) longitudinally movable to orient ~~oriented~~ in a predetermined position different from the first position when said wheel is not bearing against said surface.

Claim 41 (original): The caster of Claim 40, wherein

said item includes guiding means, a portion of said caster frame being guided by said guiding means when said wheel is lifted from said surface so as to position said caster frame in said predetermined position.

Claim 42 (original): The caster of Claim 41, wherein

b1 said caster frame includes a rod extending from said wheel through said guiding means, said rod including a pin; and

said guiding means being constructed and arranged for guiding said pin to orient said wheel and said caster frame in said predetermined position.

Claim 43 (original): The caster of Claim 42, wherein

said guiding means has a V-shape cross-section for guiding said pin.

Claim 44 (currently amended): The caster of Claim 43, wherein

said ~~retractable portion~~ guiding means includes a biasing means to bias said wheel and said wheel frame into said predetermined position when said wheel is not bearing against said surface.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The caster of Claim 40, wherein

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said caster frame includes (i) a swivel and (ii) a wheel frame connecting said swivel with said wheel, said wheel frame being pivotably mounted to said swivel ~~so that when said retractable portion is stored, said wheel and said caster frame can be positioned so as to occupy less space than a wheel and caster frame without said pivotably mounted plate.~~
